

HO-121

Nancy Valle's Stone House

Roxbury

Private

circa 1847

Nancy Valle's Stone House faces north on the southeast corner of Roxbury Mill Road and Route 97, constructed into a slope of land, so that the first floor of its south elevation is the second floor of its north elevation.

It is a two bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) stone building, resting on the ground floor stone foundation, with square brick chimney inset into its west wall and a one story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame storage hyphen, constructed on its west wall, connecting the stone house to a one story high, three bay wide, two bay deep, gabled roof (running north-south) modern frame and brick (laid in running bond) west wing, which creates an "L" plan for the house.

Fenestration for the stone house is vertically aligned, proportionally scaled, rectangular and double-hung, holding six-over-six lights. Windows are decorated with flat wooden lintels, which extend beyond the window frames and underlined by flat wooden sills.

On January 13, 1847, Allen Bowie Davis purchased a number of tracts of land from Timothy and Emily R. Andrews of Washington, D.C., among which was a tract of land called Red Oak Hills of which this was a part. The house is noted on the 1860 Marten Map and the Hopkin's Atlas of 1878.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO-121
Dist. 4

MAGI # 1401215404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

The Nancy Valle Stone House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 4401 Roxbury Mills Road E.S. (Maryland Route 97)

CITY, TOWN

Brookeville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Nancy Valle

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

3813 Military Road

CITY, TOWN

Washington

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

D.C. 20015

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hall of Records

Tax Map 21, p. 70 Liber #: 457
Folio #: 728

STREET & NUMBER

Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1978-1979

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

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CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Nancy Valle's Stone House faces north on the southeast corner of Roxbury Mill Road and Route 97, constructed into a slope, so that the first floor of its south elevation is the second floor of its north elevation.

It is a two bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) stone building, resting on the first floor stone foundation, with square brick chimney inset into its west wall and a one story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame storage hyphen, constructed on its west wall, connecting the stone house to a one story high, three bay wide, two bay deep, gabled roof (running north-south) modern frame and brick (laid in running bond) west wing, which creates an "L" plan for the house and holds a wide brick chimney on the east side of the modern wing's south wall.

Fenestration for the original house is vertically aligned, proportionally scaled, rectangular and double-hung, holding six-over-six lights. Windows are decorated with flat wooden lintels, which extend beyond either side of the window frames and are underlined by flat wooden sills. The east and west walls of the stone house hold only two tall, rather small, rectangular, attic casement windows, which hold three-three-lights. In addition, a central gabled roof dormer window is placed in the roof of the stone building's south elevation. A wooden deck, with bridge leading to a higher slope of ground, also runs along the building's south elevation, which features a central rectangular entrance, flanked by square rectangular windows, similar to those described. A gabled roof hood, decorated with scalloped barge boards and flanked by a tightly woven trellis covers the central rectangular entrance door, placed in the building's north wall and flanked by single windows, similar to those described. Another entrance, an open bible and cross paneled, rectangular entrance door is located in the frame south bay section of the newly constructed west wing.

The interior features staircases running along the east side of the south wall from first to second floor and from second floor to sleeping loft. Wide, random width floor boards, six to eight inches wide, are also featured on the second floor and the loft.

The building's ground and main floors have been paneled and modernized. The first floor was originally a dirt floor and probably the kitchen for the house. Today it holds a small kitchen in its northeast corner.

The building is similar to HO-120, By His Grace, and HO-122, The Maissel Stone House, both of which are located in the general area. It appears that this was a common plan used by the early settlers of this region as either a modest dwelling or as tenant-slave quarters. The plan is essentially a rectangular box with ground floor kitchen and servants quarters, main floor living area and sleeping loft above.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HO - 121

Dist. 4

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	—RELIGION
—1400-1499	—ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	—CONSERVATION	—LAW	—SCIENCE
—1500-1599	—AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	—EDUCATION	—MILITARY	—SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
—1700-1799	—ART	—ENGINEERING	—MUSIC	—THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION
—1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	—POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) (Local History)
		—INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1847 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE The Nancy Valle Stone House is significant to Howard County and the State of Maryland architecturally, as an example of Howard County's vernacular, early nineteenth century stone architecture, and historically for its association with Allen Bowie Davis, President of the Board of Trustees of the Old Maryland Agricultural College, now the University of Maryland.

It is constructed essentially in the same manner as HO-120, By His Grace and HO - 122, the Maissel Stone House, both of which are located in the general area.

This kind of house, featuring essentially an I plan, was common throughout Howard County and could have been constructed for a number of purposes such as 1) A modest residence for a settler 2) a tenant house or 3) as slave quarters.

The house is a box, whose ground floor has a dual purpose for use as the foundation for the house and as a kitchen-work area. This kind of house is generally constructed into the slope of land, providing a degree of privacy between those working on the ground floor and those residing on the main floor, by providing separate entrances to each level. The ground floor usually had a dirt floor as was the case in this house, with wide floor boards on the main floor and sleeping loft.

The additions to the house have in no way interfered with its integrity but have left the facade untouched except for the gabled roof entrance portico covering the entrance door. The wooden porch constructed along the side elevation as well as the central, gabled roof attic window, also placed on the south elevation by Mrs. Nancy Valle do not detract from the architectural integrity of the house, but provide additional living space and light for those residing in the house.

Historically, the house is located on a part of the tract called "Red Oak Hills," which was bought, along with several other tracts and farms, by Allen Bowie Davis on February 18, 1847, from a Timothy Andrews of Washington, D. C.

Both the 1860 Martennet Map and the Hopkin's Atlas of 1878 note the house, which in 1882 became the property of Edward Action for \$1,000, "together with all the improvements."

Allen B. Davis and his wife Hester lived in Montgomery County, but owned several farms in Howard County.

In the histories of Howard County, Maryland by both J. D. Warfield and by Charles F. Stein, Allen Bowie Davis of "Greenwood" is noted as an important contributor to the

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

County's history. His grandmother was the daughter of Cornelius Howard of Simpsonville and his wife, Rachel Ridgely Worthington, while his father Thomas Davis is notable for commanding a company of militia in 1794 to march to Pennsylvania and put down the Whisky Rebellion there and for serving as President of the Board of Trustees of Brookeville Academy. He married Elizabeth Bowie, a daughter of General Allen Bowie. They had a son whom they named Allen Bowie Davis, after his grandfather.

Allen Bowie Davis was a notable agriculturalist who wrote a textbook on that subject to be used in the public schools as an entrance to the College of Agriculture, of whose board of Trustees, he became President. This school later became the University of Maryland.

He was a large land owner acquiring Woodford, which comprised some 900 to 1000 acres of land from William H. Marriott on October 11, 1841, to whom it was devised by the will of Colonel Resin Hammond. Six years later he acquired several tracts of land from Timothy and Emily Andrews of Washington, D. C. for the sum of \$12,120. Parts of several tracts situated at Roxbury Mills are mentioned, among them "Red Oak Mills", as well as "Hard to Get and Dear Paid For", "Duvall's Range".

Allen Bowie Davis first married Comfort Dorsey, daughter of Chief Justice Thomas Beale Dorsey and later a Miss Hester Wilkens of Baltimore, the mother of his children.

The acquisition of these farms, in all probability, had the dual purpose of speculation and investment coupled with serious agricultural research. Orchards were once located east of the present stone house where a garden is now located. In the deed of 1847 buildings and improvements are mentioned along with land. These houses were probably rented to tenant farmers which was the general practice of the day.

On October 10, 1882 the present parcel was formed and sold to Edward Action. By 1927 it had been acquired by Martin L. and Anna Kraft (131-2243). On June 18, 1934 Hattie Hipsley conveyed the land and buildings to Ben S. Franklin, whose family retain ownership of the property. (149-233) (457-728).

Of both architectural and historical significance, the Nancy Valle Stone House should be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, the State Critical Areas Program and any local landmark ordinance the citizens of Howard County may initiate, should its owners so desire.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Howard County
Interview with Mrs. Dorothy Pond
May 3, 1979 (489-4980)

Interview with Ms. Randy Hartwell, occupant (442-2298)

Interview with Carol Valle, present occupant and daughter of the owner, May 29, 1979
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 7.611 acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 21

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 457 Folio 728

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

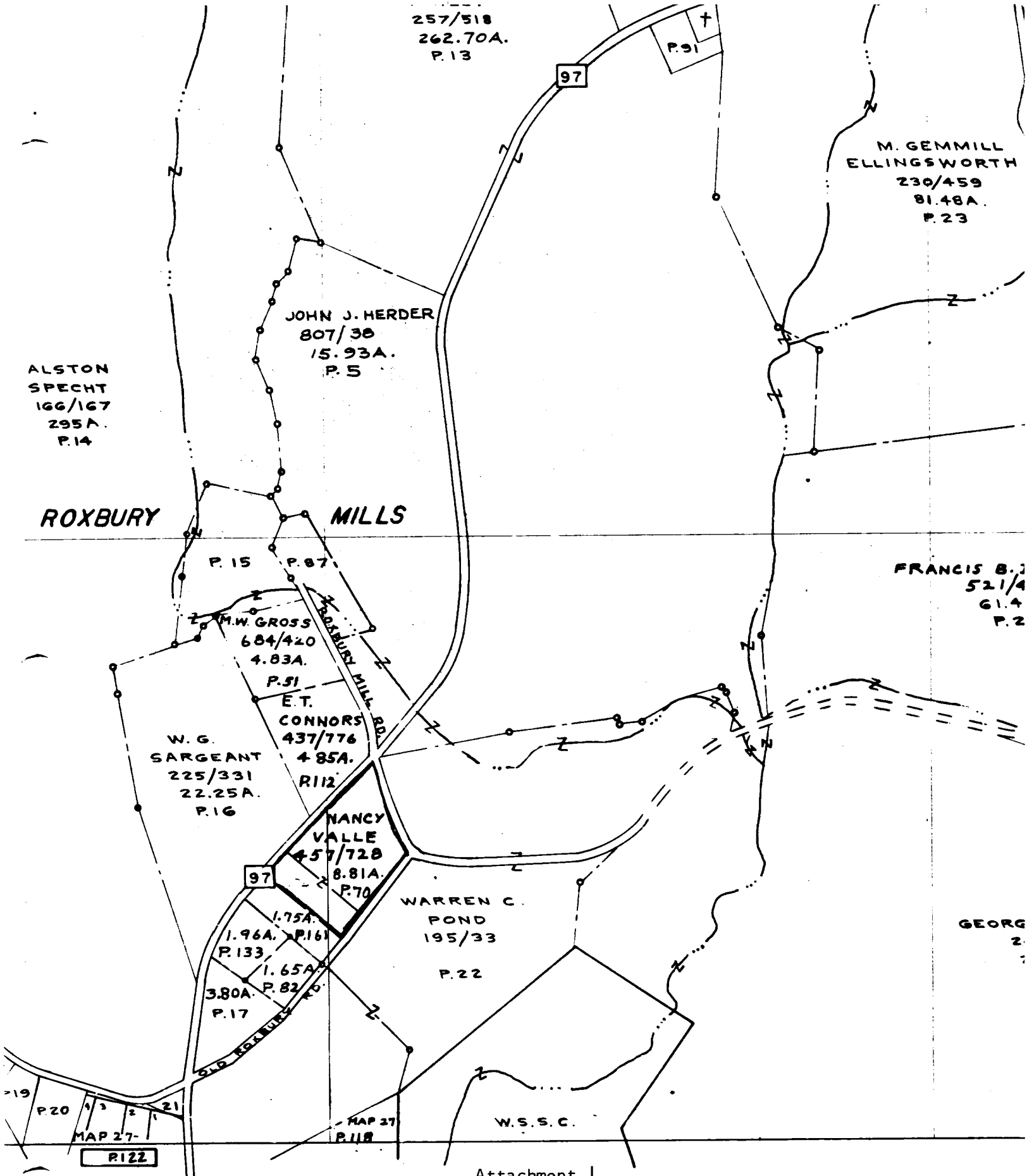
STATE

Maryland

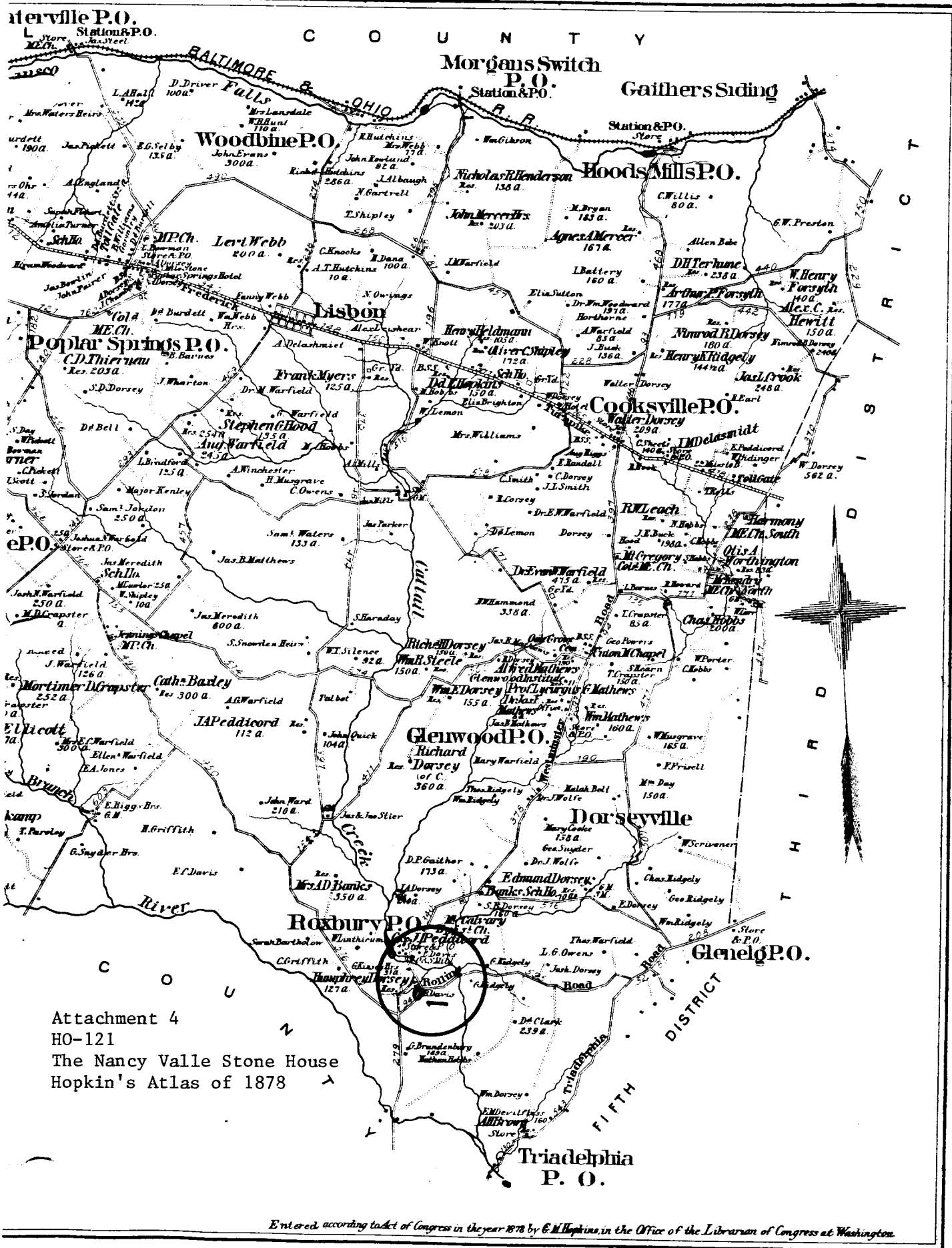
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438





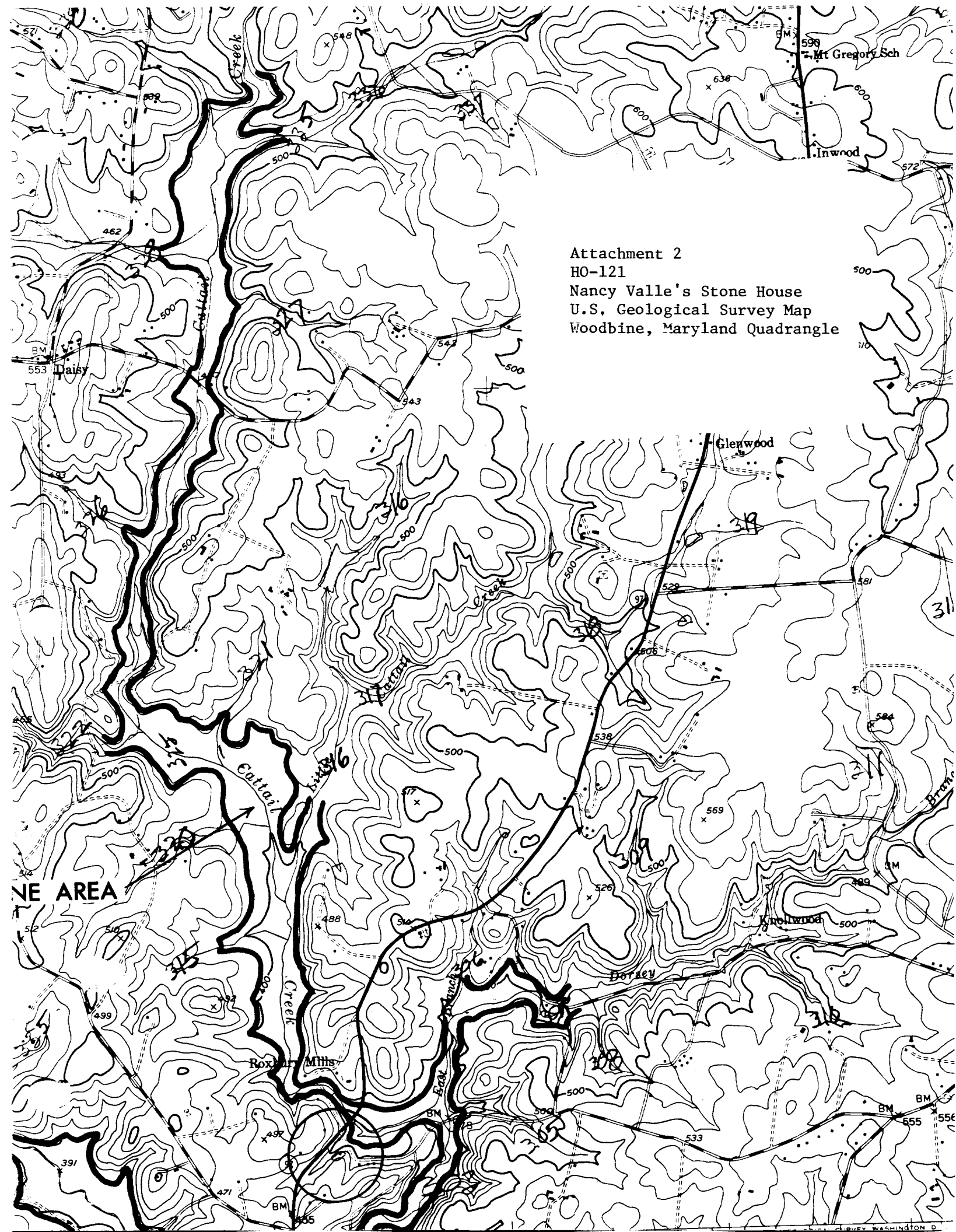


Attachment 4
HO-121
The Nancy Valle Stone House
Hopkin's Atlas of 1878

ATLAS
COLUMBIAN
1878

Entered, according to act of Congress in the year 1878 by G.M. Hopkins in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

Attachment 2
HO-121
Nancy Valle's Stone House
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Woodbine, Maryland Quadrangle





Hb-121
The Nancy Valle Stone Hse
NORTH

ST THOMPSON AICP